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Veterans Center BBQ Part of Ongoing Mission

KAT RIDDLE
MANAGING EDITOR

REBECCA McMENAMIN, manager of Veteran & Military Services and a VA Certifying Official said, "It's tough to be successful on your own, it's about the community of people you surround yourself with. When you show up and ask questions, you never know what can happen."

The Veterans Resource Day and BBQ was September 7 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Veterans Center and the Millennium Student Patio. The BBQ was an opportunity for both student veterans and nonmilitary students, faculty and staff to connections with one another. The Veterans Affairs Services Expo from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. provided information to veterans about VA Education, VA Healthcare, the Women's Clinic, Vet Center mental health clinic, and VA Vocational Rehabilitation.

Rebecca McMenamin is the only full-time staff of the Veterans Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She emphasized the importance of access to VA services for student veterans who have experienced barriers with the VA in the past: long wait times, scheduling

conflicts, or getting someone on the phone. She said, "We wanted to provide more value to students instead of just the barbecue. There is always a need to bring in VA services to campus because student veterans are typically balancing multiple and it's difficult to access VA services when you don't have a lot of time."

The Veterans Center provides resources to students who are curious about all things veteran-related. St. Louis native Rick Eder, junior, history, spent 10 years in the Marine Corps and decided to attend UMSL after checking out the Veterans Center on campus. He said, "I walked in one day, before I was even accepted into the school, and they talked to me like I was one of them. That's one thing here, we treat everyone the same."

McMenamin has been in her position for two years and in that time has been increasing programming to attract, retain, and engage student veterans on UMSL's campus. Despite falling enrollment numbers at other schools, McMenamin said the veteran student enrollment is up 10 percent for the fall. McMenamin said, "We do outreach to students who have shown interest in coming to UMSL, but really we just answer



Annual Veterans Center BBQ attracted many students on the MSC Patio.

the phone and try to be as helpful as possible. Our goal is to break down any barriers, whether it be with enrollment, transferring, or GI Bill benefits. We want to streamline that

process and make it as easy as possible for students."

While Eder attended college in California in 2010, he was involved in that school's Veterans Center. At

UMSL, he was able to apply when a position opened up and be involved in the Veterans Center. He said, "I like helping veterans... I wanted to

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Four Elected Leaders Come to UMSL to Discuss

KAT RIDDLE
MANAGING EDITOR

STUDENTS, FACULTY, staff, and community members of the University of Missouri-St. Louis came together Friday in the Fire-side Lounge from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to speak with four elected officials from around Missouri. The event, Lunch with Elected Leaders, was formerly called Lunch with Legislators and is hosted by the Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM). They made the decision to expand their invitations from just state representatives and state senators to include local government elected public officials as well.

The four speakers who attended were Republican State Representative Cloria Brown, from district 94 in South St. Louis County, Republican State Representative Tom Hannegan from district 65 in St. Charles, Democrat St. Louis City Treasurer Tishaura Jones, and Democrat State



State Representative Tom Hannegan speaking with constituents from St. Charles.

Representative Deb Lavender from district 90 in Kirkwood. Following a buffet luncheon for all in attendance, each guest was invited to speak about themselves, why they ran for the position, and projects they are working on.

This was Brown's second year

attending the Lunch with Elected Leaders event at UMSL. Representative Brown is retired, focusing on her fifth year in the House of Representatives. She explained a little bit about her typical day serving on numerous committees. Brown explained what a representative does,

"I view it as three things...They vote for bills, they do a budget, and they help the constituents." She continued that normally she receives calls to help constituents because they do not know who else to call and she navigates them to the right place.

Representative Hannegan works as a magazine publisher of Street Scape Magazine in St. Charles on top of his duties in the House of Representatives. Hannegan said, "I think it's very ironic that I chose politics and I have this media background because sometimes media and politics don't necessarily get along. I guess I bring a different perspective."

Hannegan was interested in representing St. Charles in Jefferson City to make sure it was not forgotten. Hannegan said, "I was one of those people who wasn't in politics but I enjoyed politics. I was one of those who would go to the city council meetings or the county council meetings, the only one in the audience. Or if I didn't go I

would watch on local access cable... By doing that, it energizes you to find out about government and get involved."

Representative Hannegan encouraged everyone to get involved on any level. He also commented on something he was told early in his career in Jefferson City. Hannegan said, "Don't worry about trying to pass laws and create new stuff, sometimes you just have to be there so the bad stuff doesn't get through. That's just as important as creating the good stuff."

Working for equal rights for LGBTQ residents of Missouri is one of Representative Hannegan's current goals. Currently, in the housing and employment industries, residents can be discriminated against if they are perceived as gay, lesbian, bi, or transgender. This discrimination can happen while other legislative members are pushing for more protective legal rights for other classes when there is a class of citizen who

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ON THE QUAD BY MIKE DILIBERTO

UMSL | Campus Life Presents

FRY-YAY AND FRISBEES!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 | 11AM - 2PM | THE NOSH

Stop by the Nosh for
FREE FRIES
AND DIPPING SAUCE

Math Problem of the Week

Chicken McNuggets come in packages of 6, 9, and 20. What is the largest number of chicken McNuggets you CAN NOT order from packages of 6, 9, and 20 McNuggets?

Email solutions to covertdj@umsl.edu.



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA



SIGMA TAU DELTA

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY

PRESENTS

Word of the Week

Ameliorate (verb): to improve; to make more satisfactory.

If a student wants to ameliorate her writing, attending the workshop on "Tips and Tricks to Navigate Citation Styles" is a step in the right direction. (Tuesday, Sept. 12, 11-12, 107 Lucas Hall)



INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

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PARK(ing) Day: Transforming Urban Spaces

STEVEN DOERHOFF
STAFF WRITER

EVERY YEAR, on the third Friday of September, metered parking spaces in cities around the globe will be transformed into temporary public places, calling attention to the need for more urban open space and creating debate for how the land in these areas is used. This year, PARK(ing) Day will occur on September 15.

The tradition of PARK(ing) Day began in 2005 when Rebar, a San Francisco art and design studio, temporarily transformed a metered parking space into a public park for a day. The goal of the project was to raise awareness and spark debate about using urban space for areas that serve more needs than simply parking. Since that time, this idea has been adapted in many cities to serve that purpose as well as tailored to fit each city's needs.

PARK(ing) Day is an "open-source" project that invites artists, activists or anyone with a desire to create, to convert a parking space into a temporary open public space. It has been used to shed light on

various social issues and applied in many urban contexts. PARK(ing) Day spaces can range from artistic or experimental, to fun or political; its meaning based solely on the interpretations of the designer.

The best way to start a PARK(ing) Day project is to visit the website, <http://parkingday.org>. It includes a manual with "how-to" information to help aid in the design, answers to some frequently asked questions, and a DIY Planning Network to connect with participants locally and in other cities. Of course, it is advised to research and be conscious of local laws and regulations when joining in on the PARK(ing) Day celebration too.

According to the website, participants have built free health clinics, planted temporary urban farms, produced ecology demonstrations, held political seminars, built art installations, and opened free bike repair shops, all supporting the original vision of PARK(ing) Day: to challenge existing notions of public space and empower people to help redefine space to suit specific community needs.



An example of Park(ing) Day where residents created a space for everyone to come and play games.

Statement from UM Leadership Regarding DACA Students

KAT RIDDLER
MANAGING EDITOR

THE TRUMP Administration announced September 5 they would rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students. This program has protected nearly 800,000 young, undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children from deportation.

The Department of Homeland Security stopped processing new applications for the program after the announcement. The administration announced they will continue renewing permits for anyone whose status expires in the next six months, giving Congress time to act before any currently protected individuals lose their ability to work,

study, and live without fear in the U.S. Congress can act to preserve the program's protections before the DACA recipients begin losing their status March 5, 2018.

A system-wide email was sent out on Tuesday regarding the DACA announcement. The statement was from the University of Missouri System President Mun Choi, University of Missouri-Columbia Chancellor Alexander Cartwright, University of Missouri-Kansas City Interim Chancellor Barbara Bichelmeyer, Missouri University of Science and Technology Interim Chancellor Christopher Maples, and University of Missouri-St. Louis Chancellor Thomas George.

The email stated, "DACA students are hardworking, bright

individuals who have much to contribute to our society in many disciplines, including the sciences, humanities, arts, and social sciences. Many have persevered to attend college to better themselves and contribute to American society. For these reasons, we request a fair and compassionate solution to support the young people who have been placed in desperate situations through no fault of their own. More than 35 DACA students attend the University of Missouri System campuses, and they are charged the same tuition that applies to international students, as per state law. We will work closely with our DACA students to provide support and guidance during this period of uncertainty."

OSI Column for September 11

THIS WEEK in the Office of Student Involvement:

- The annual Student Organization Leadership Education (SOLE) Summit is this week. SOLE will take place on September 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center, with check-in starting at 8:30 a.m. Recognized Student Organizations are required to have at least two officers attend this training as part of their annual renewal process with the Office of Student Involvement. Students can learn more and register for the event by visiting <https://orgsync.com/56515/events/1943594/occurrences/4523322>.

- Registration is still open for The Big Event! 2017, hosted by UMSL Student of Service and Stu-

dent Government Association. This community clean-up event will include planting a bioswale with native plants, removing invasive bush honeysuckle, and conducting litter pickup along the greenway. Interested participants must register by 11:45 p.m. on September 13. Walk-ups are welcome, but will only be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis, pending available space, and shirt size cannot be guaranteed. Learn more and register by visiting the UMSL Students of Service Portal on TritonSync.

- Calling all students, faculty, and staff. Join us for the Office of Student Involvement Open House. Learn more about our programs: Campus Wide Programming, Fraternity & Sorority Life, Leadership

Education, Service & Diversity, and Student Organizations. We will even be giving away some prizes and free food. The Office of Student Involvement Open House will take place on September 13 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in MSC room 366.

- The Leadership Diversity & New Member Institute, a one-day conference open to all UMSL students, is still accepting registrations. The focus of this year's Summit is to engage and educate participants in the areas of diversity and social justice. Learn more and register on TritonSync.

- The Office of Student Involvement can be contacted at 314-516-5291 or studentinvolvement@umsl.edu.

CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

AUBREY BYRON
NEWS EDITOR

THE FOLLOWING is a series of daily crime and incident reports issued by the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between August 31 and September 7.

August 31: At 11:06 a.m. an UMSL student at the Provincial House was transported to the hospital via ambulance after experiencing a seizure. At 12:26 p.m. UMSL PD responded to a report in the Quad of an individual urinating in public. At 4:30 p.m. an UMSL student reported a lost laptop. At 10:30 p.m. UMSL PD responded to a noise complaint on Natural Bridge and requested an event to be moved inside. All was in order.

September 1: There were no incidents to report on this day.

September 2: There were no incidents to report on this day.

September 3: At 1:11 a.m. UMSL PD and residence life staff responded to a smell of marijuana in Villa Hall. At 10:30 p.m. An UMSL student reported concern of a potential stalking in Oak Hall. At 11:20 p.m. An UMSL student was transported to the hospital via ambulance after experiencing a panic attack in Oak Hall.

September 4: At 11:17 p.m. UMSL PD and residence life staff responded to a smell of marijuana in Oak Hall.

September 5: At 1:40 a.m. UMSL PD responded to a report of an individual that appeared to be hiding in some bushes. The individual was identified as an UMSL student and denied any wrongdoing. At 3 a.m. two non-student guests were arrested for assault follow-

ing an altercation in an apartment. Both individuals were released pending application of warrants, one released to Richmond Heights PD on outstanding warrants. At 6:33 a.m. UMSL PD responded a suspicious person stopping employees at Express Scripts. It was determined the individual was a Metro patron awaiting a bus. At 8:56 a.m. an UMSL staff member reported damage to items on the playground at the Child Development Center. At 3:15 p.m. an UMSL police officer reported minor damage on a university owned vehicle. At 4:29 p.m. a person not affiliated with UMSL was arrested for sexual misconduct after being observed exposing himself near Marillac Hall. The suspect was transported to St. Louis County Intake. At 6:56 p.m. UMSL PD and residence life staff responded to a smell of marijuana near University Meadows.

September 6: At 2:22 a.m. an UMSL student was transported to the hospital by a parent after complaining of stomach pain. At 12:37 p.m. an UMSL student reported their parked car was struck and damaged in West Drive Garage.

September 7: At 3:20 a.m. UMSL PD was called and they escorted individuals from Express Scripts Hall for trespassing after they had been found sleeping. At 5 p.m. UMSL PD assisted Residence Life by checking the welfare of an UMSL student at Oak Hall. The student was fine and all was in order. At 6:27 p.m. a found driver's license was turned into UMSL PD for safe-keeping. The license was found in Oak Hall.

Veterans Center Hosts Annual BBQ and Resource Day

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kind of be with veterans because that is where we feel most comfortable generally... Some student vets have a hard time transitioning to the civilian life."

This was the first year that Eder was able to attend the Veterans Resource Day and BBQ. He looked forward to talking to some of the VA reps and getting to know more of the veterans on campus.

McMenamin said, "The community is so important for students. If students don't feel a connection to UMSL or to any university, they are less likely to persist in their education efforts, especially when things get really tough. If we can provide some sort of connection to UMSL for them, then they will know where to come if things get tough and they have questions or if they want to get involved."

Eder encouraged anyone to come and ask questions or visit the Veterans Center. He said, "Come talk to us. If you have any questions about anything, come talk. Again, ask questions or you will never know the answer. We are not all scary people. Ninety-nine percent of us are approachable and you can talk to us about almost any topic... If you're curious about joining, you

can ask our opinion about it or ask us about life. A lot of us, generally, are older than the average student so we have a lot of life and a lot of life skills. We can share that as well."

This semester, the Veterans Center will be increasing their programming. They will have Boeing come in three times in the next month, including at the Internship and Job Fair on September 22. Veterans will now have a pin they can wear to the job fair that identifies them as an UMSL veteran.

There is a first year experience class for veteran students to take for one credit hour for 10 weeks. In addition to providing a support system, this class is a place to discuss study skills and learn about resources on campus. Currently the chair of Military and Veteran Studies Jim Craig teaches that course. McMenamin said, "Students who take the class pretty much have their own personal coach, Jim, through their whole first semester. The majority of students who have taken that class have been successful at UMSL."

The Veterans Center will be celebrating its five year anniversary on the UMSL campus on December 7. They are located in 211 Clark Hall and provide a myriad of services for

veteran students: tutoring, GI Bill benefits, financial aid resources, advising resources, and more.

The Veterans Center will also be hosting a 9/11 Day of Service with The Mission Continues from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. They will be painting hallways and murals at the Normandy Kindergarten Center and building benches for the playground area. On September 11 they will be hosting 9/11 Remembrance Breakfast from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Veterans Center. The event is open to all faculty, staff, and students.

The Veterans Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The center is open to all faculty, staff, and students.



The pin that all veterans will get to wear at the Internship and Job Fair.



Informational table for veterans was also at the BBQ.



Students speaking with VA representatives in the Veterans Center in Clark Hall.

Elected Leaders Visit UMSL to Discuss Politics



Lunch with Elected Leaders had many going in and out of the Fireside lounge on Friday to meet with the different politicians.

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does not have the basic legal rights as other citizens.

City Treasurer Jones was a State Representative for four years and served as the first African-American and female Assistant Minority floor leader while there. She became the first female City Treasurer in 2012. The diverse position is responsible for processing payroll, investing the reserve funds for the City, and parking supervision. Some of the parking revenue is directed into a program for financial empowerment for St. Louis City residents with the new Office of Financial Empowerment. They have a program for a children's savings account in which the City begins with a \$50 deposit with a match savings for the first \$100 saved, up to \$50 for perfect or near perfect attendance, and parents can earn up to \$50 for completing financial education courses. Jones said, "Why am I so passionate about financial empowerment? Because in 2012 when I was running for treasurer, I noticed that the FDIC

reported that over one third of African-Americans in the region were unbanked or underbanked."

Unbanked means that a person spends over \$1200 to get access to their paycheck every year. Underbanked means that residents have a bank but they still use predatory services for credit. Jones hopes to get more people banked and give students a chance to save up to go to college. She quoted research done at Washington University, "Children with less than \$500 saved are three times more likely to go to college and four times more likely to complete college."

Representative Lavender works as a physical therapist on top of her duties in Jefferson City. She also had an interest in politics and current events, but she believed she was unqualified. She said, "Everyone sitting in this room is just as qualified to be a representative... It's how you go about getting there."

Representative Lavender joked she took the longest route to get where she was. She ran three times

and lost before she finally won in 2014. Lavender said, "I love the work. I love the opportunity to learn. It is ongoing. If there is a topic you are interested in, you can make a phone call and they will come and talk to you about it. I find it fascinating and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to have the job."

ASUM is a non-partisan, non-profit student lobbying organization since 1975. Every student enrolled in a University of Missouri campus is a member. ASUM is involved in many political events on campus, assisting with voter registration, helping students with absentee ballots, organizing candidate forums, student issue surveys, and the state internship program. ASUM sends students from all four campuses and registers them as lobbyists to lobby on behalf of students around the UM System. Applications are open now for the spring internship.

ASUM's mission is to advocate and lobby for student interests while educating students on the im-

portance of involvement in government. ASUM lobbies on behalf of UM student interests and provides meaningful student leadership and hands-on learning experiences in the area of policy development, higher education concerns and processes, and day to day operations

of state and federal government. ASUM is looking for applicants for the spring lobbyist internship program. Questions about ASUM or the internship program can be directed to UMSL's ASUM President Jordan Lucas, graduate, economics, at jmlwz4@mail.ums.edu.



SGA Parliamentarian Daniel Ryerson and State Representative Tom Hannegan.

“Death Note” Writes Its Own Name Down

KAT RIDDLER
MANAGING EDITOR

I WAS super excited to see that “Death Note” was a suggested title by Netflix one night. I watched the little intro and I was not impressed. I really liked the live action 2006 edition and sequel so I wanted to give this live action a chance.

If you are a fan of the Japanese manga written by Tsugumi Ohba that was released in 2003, then do not watch this. It is nothing like the manga, which becomes clear in the first five minutes as everything is sped up to fit into a 100 minute film. For comparison, the other live action movies went through the whole saga in 264 minutes.

The original storyline follows Light Yagami who finds a supernatural book that allows a shinigami named Ryuk to kill anyone once a name and face are known and recorded in the book. Light tries to play God as he cleanses the Earth of evil. Meanwhile, a detective known as “L” tries to stop him. It is a suspenseful series that mimics mental games like chess. This movie focuses more on gore and sensationalism instead of the intellectual heart of the series.



Detective L confronting Light about Kira.

There are so many things that I disliked about this movie that I could really only watch it to see just how bad the trainwreck was. Instead of setting it in Japan, they set it in Seattle, Washington with mostly an American cast. Naturally, if the setting is changed then character development and cultural references would change—not here.

Characters become very shallow and are reduced simply to names with teenage angst clichés throughout the story.

The movie tries to hit some plot points by having Light be called Kira. In the series he is given that name and treated as a god who kills criminals. In the movie, he is shown picking the name Kira as a transla-

tion of his name to throw off any investigation that he is the killer. It is a nice homage to the manga but it is then uttered with the phrase, “It sorta means killer in Japanese so if they will be looking for me it will be on the wrong continent.” So with that logic, Kira also means Light in Russian so they could also be looking for him in Russia. It is another

example of moving the story location without thinking about what it effects in the rest of the plot.

One of the more interesting plots in “Death Note” is the emergence of a second Kira, Misa Amane, who has her own Death Note and shinigami. She really likes what Kira was doing and so became a copycat killer. She also becomes a love interest for Light. In the Netflix adaptation, the love interest is Mia who steals Light’s book to write names in. This is against the rules as only the owner of the book can write names down and see the shinigami. The movie only followed the rule of Mia not being able to see or hear Ryuk. They really condensed that character’s role and messed with a critical plot point of the rules of the Death Note. The movie kept saying there are so many rules, but obviously the writers and producers skimmed some.

This movie is more like a fan-fiction that uses some characters and plot points from the “Death Note” series. If you want to watch a Netflix original, check out something else. If you want to cringe at giant plot holes and shallow characters then this movie is on Netflix when you are ready.

Drawing the Line: Separating the Art from the Artist

CHRIS ZUVER
A&E EDITOR

THROUGHOUT THE history of popular music, there has been the concept of the icon, and with it, controversy. In the 19th century, you had Beethoven, who was caught being a peeping tom, yet was loved for his concerts and compositions. In the jazz era of 20th century America, there was local legend Miles Davis, who revolutionized the music genre, but was also known for domestic violence. People are selective when it comes to dismissing those they admire. Often, it seems that there is a bias based on favorability.

While the concept of the controversial celebrity is not limited to popular music, musicians are a particularly polarizing—and therefore interesting—subject, especially in recent history. Some musicians get the general pass, like Jimmy Page, who, at the age of 28, started dating 14-year-old groupie Lorri Maddox. However, Page’s band Led Zeppelin is regarded as one of the greatest rock acts of all time and the aforementioned small piece of scandalous information has fallen into the vast lore of Zoso. But if we go back one decade prior to Page, we can see that rock n’ roller Jerry Lee Lewis married his 13-year-old cousin at the age of 23, yet, unlike Page, this bit of information is closely tied to his name.



The band Led Zeppelin with controversial celebrity Jimmy Page.

So, while throwing a couple of general examples your way, I ask the question: how far do you accept the separation of art from the artist?

Personally, I am a fan of former Welsh band, Lostprophets. I listened to their first album, “The Fake Sound of Progress” every day in middle school. When I read that their front man pleaded guilty to underage sex crimes in 2013, I was disgusted. But what does that have to do with their music? The singer,

despite his crimes, sang well and the band was tight. Their debut still retains a kickass sound and that will never change to me.

Now, ever since that incident, uttering the band’s name has become the equivalent of picking up rattlesnakes from a barbed-wire cage. But let us pretend that this scenario had happened to a different front man. Let us say that tomorrow, it was discovered that late rock legend Kurt Cobain had, beyond a doubt,

committed these same crimes. Let us say that witnesses or victims stepped forward and provided video evidence of the act. Would you think that Cobain still deserved the praise he receives? If you’re a fan, would you still listen to the music? And would you let people know that you did?

When it comes to art, people tend to base their opinions on various things. The same can be said for people’s opinions on celebri-

ties. Often, we rank famous people as “good” or “bad” based on a few things we hear about them. When art and celebrity cross, there will always be those who are surrounded by sensational stories. Yet, people seem to be more forgiving when the celebrity’s art is well-received.

And that is why Michael Jackson is, perhaps, the most looming example of a music celebrity that walks the line between praise and disgrace. Though his name is at the end of many dirty jokes, he is still widely respected for his music and performances, which have set the standard for modern pop music ever since. I have heard as much trash talk about the guy as I have heard admiration, and sometimes both takes from the same person. Whatever your opinion may be about allegations against Jackson, you cannot deny that the celebration of his music and performances, at the least, overlap the level of his associated stigma.

For some people, music is a passive background to be enjoyed, while for others, it is a drive and a lifestyle to be obsessed over. But most of us will have our favorites and we will have our reasons why. What I am saying is simple, really: you all have your morals, and you can all form your own opinions as to what you think is sacrosanct. If you ask me, what musicians do shouldn’t be connected to the music.



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Saint Louis Spirit Basketball Soars Again

RODERICK M. WILBON
SPORTS EDITOR

SAINT LOUIS used to have an American Basketball Association (ABA) basketball team called the Spirits of St. Louis between 1974 and 1976. Their home for games was the then St. Louis Arena, and they have long been gone and missed. But change is here and they do not have to be missed anymore. The ABA announced in June that it has added the St. Louis Spirits to its growing list of expansion teams for the upcoming season.

“This is very exciting for us,” stated ABA co-founder Joe Newman. “The original Spirits of St. Louis were a legendary ABA team, the city where NBC’s Bob Costas got his start in sports as the announcer and home of many legendary ABA



Ryan Hall of the St. Louis Spirits at the Meet and Greet.

players. It is about time we returned and with a great new owner.”

The team’s owner is Damon L. Cannon, an avid sports enthusiast and a Riverview Gardens High School graduate who played baseball, football, and wrestling. He is also an alumnus of the University of Tulsa and Southeast Missouri State universities where he played football.

He currently owns the St. Louis Spirit professional football team and is co-owner of the 3-time champion Midwest Chargers football team. Cannon is a Chief Apostle of the United Body of Christ Ministries. “I am a native of St. Louis and love being involved in community access

projects,” said Cannon. “My current project is Thrush 5000 Community Enhancement Project which works on cleaning up the neighborhood and thriving to change the image of an at-risk community. I am looking forward to establishing a team in the ABA and will do everything in my power to be an asset to the organization.”

Saint Louis has the Saint Louis Surge, a professional women’s basketball team. The Surge have been in town for years now and are very successful. Even though we do not seem to be a basketball town and the industry seems to say the same, Cannon does not believe it. Cannon said, “We’re more of a basketball town

than most people think.”

ABA differs from the many leagues and rules of basketball. It is not the Harlem Globetrotters where it is mostly entertainment, and it is not like the NBA where there are more rules and a slower pace. “We’re bringing the best of both worlds for the casual basketball fan and the hardcore fans,” said Cannon. “Our games will be like All-Star games with way more defense and pushing the ball.”

On September 7 the team had a professional meet and greet at Bar101. Fans, VIPs, and professionals came out to meet the team. The St. Louis Spirits will host an ABA Hurricane Relief Charity Volleyball Challenge at Bar 101 on September 30. For \$40 dollars, attendees receive lunch, beverages, and volleyball registration. All the proceeds are donated. Fans can meet some of the hometown heroes like Dwayne Polk and Johnny Cooper.

The St. Louis Spirit will open the season on October 7 with their first home game at Saint Louis Community College-Florissant Valley against the Kansas City Soul. The game will also benefit the Journey Against Domestic And Sexual Abuse at www.raceforjadasa.org.

For more information on The St. Louis Spirit basketball team www.basketballspiritstl.net.



St. Louis Spirits Logo.

Women’s Soccer And The Tiny Tritons

RODERICK M. WILBON
SPORTS EDITOR

ON SEPTEMBER 9 at the Don Dallas Soccer Field the Tiny Tritons’ Program held its first soccer clinic, led by the University of Missouri-Saint Louis Triton Women’s Soccer Team. The skies were bright blue, the sun was not unbearable, and parents and children rushed in the event. Parents included some professors, faculty, students, staff, and others from the surrounding community. The Tiny Tritons ranged from 2 to 13-year-olds.

The event had stations and stages for the children. Kids started off warming up with soccer balls, passing between each other and two or more UMSL soccer players. At the next station, Tiny Tritons were displaying their goal scoring and penalty kicks. They switched between the kicker and the goalie to learn the skills of both positions. The last

station was working with footwork on the ground ladder. It was a sight to see the Tiny Tritons try to master the techniques of the Women Tritons. The kids and parents were both having a ball.

At break time, UMSL provided prepacked sliced oranges and a bottle water for the Tiny Tritons and parents. After the break, the Tiny Tritons were placed in two teams, blue and green, to face off. The game did not go as well as everyone thought. Goals were being scored on the wrong goals and another ball somehow was introduced confusing a few Tiny Tritons. A two-year-old girl’s jersey was just a little too big and it continued to trip her up all match. The match became quite the spectacle.

The Tiny Triton’s program is just one of the many community outreach programs hosted and created by UMSL. Esther Robinson, full-back, freshman, engineering, was



A Tiny Triton dribbling the soccer ball.

one of the many players. “It’s about kids learning soccer, but mainly for kids to come out, have fun and experience something different,” said Robinson.

Head Coach Wendy Dillinger and Assistant Coach Chris Sellers have started a similar program at Jennings High School called FC 18-21. Sellers is also a well-known

teacher at Jennings High School. They have been at this program for over two years now and believe it has positively affected the community. “Our thoughts are how do we bring the passion of unity and soccer to other areas,” said Sellers. “We’re all here in North County between UMSL and Jennings, it just makes sense.”



Tiny Tritons Soccer at the Don Dallas Soccer Field.



Tiny Tritons practicing their new soccer skills.

Sports Calendar

Monday, 9/11	TBA
Women’s Golf	Away
Tuesday, 9/12	TBA
Women’s Golf	Away
Thursday, 9/14	7:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Home
Friday, 9/15	7:30 PM
Men’s Soccer	Away
Friday, 9/15	All Day
Men’s Tennis	Away
Friday, 9/15	4:00 PM
Women’s Soccer	Away
Saturday, 9/16	All Day
Men’s Tennis	Away
Saturday, 9/16	3:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Away
Sunday, 9/17	All Day
Men’s Tennis	Away
Sunday, 9/17	12:00 PM
Women’s Soccer	Away
Sunday, 9/17	2:30 PM
Men’s Soccer	Away
Friday, 9/22	5:00 PM
Women’s Soccer	Home
Friday, 9/22	7:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Away
Friday, 9/22	7:30 PM
Men’s Soccer	Home
Friday, 9/22	All Day
Women’s Tennis	Away
Saturday, 9/23	All Day
Women’s Tennis	Away
Saturday, 9/23	3:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Away
Sunday, 9/24	All Day
Women’s Tennis	Away
Sunday, 9/24	12:00 PM
Women’s Soccer	Home
Sunday, 9/24	2:30 PM
Men’s Soccer	Home
Monday, 9/25	TBA
Women’s Golf	Away
Tuesday, 9/26	7:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Away
Tuesday, 9/26	TBA
Women’s Golf	Away
Friday, 9/29	5:00 PM
Women’s Soccer	Away
Friday, 9/29	7:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Home
Friday, 9/29	2:00 P.M.
Men’s Swimming	Away
Friday, 9/29	2:00 P.M.
Women’s Swimming	Away
Friday, 9/29	7:30
Men’s Soccer	Away
Friday, 9/29	TBA
Women’s Tennis	Home
Friday, 9/29	TBA
Men’s Tennis	Home
Saturday, 9/30	3:00 PM
Women’s Volleyball	Home

Former Police Officer Stockley Deserves First-Degree Charge in 2011 Murder Case

KYLE MANNISI
OPINIONS EDITOR

BEFORE WE witnessed the tragedies of Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, Alton Sterling, and Sandra Bland, there was Anthony Lamar Smith. Closing arguments in his case ended on August 9th, but Judge Timothy Wilson's verdict for former St. Louis Metropolitan officer Jason Stockley has not yet been delivered.

Stockley is on trial for the first degree murder of 24-year-old Smith, which occurred in December 2011. The disturbing event, which were captured by the officer's dashboard camera system and eyewitness cell phone footage, began as Stockley and fellow officer Brian Bianchi encountered Smith outside of a Church's Chicken restaurant after witnessing a "suspected drug deal."

Smith was backing out of a parking spot and the officers parked their police SUV behind him in an effort to block him in. Smith then panicked and attempted to speed away. In the process, he backed into the squad car and then brushed against the AK-47 bearing Stockley, who was on foot. In response, Stockley fired seven shots at the fleeing vehicle with his service pistol. Upon returning to their vehicles, Stockley and Bianchi sped through neighborhoods at speeds up to 87 mph, at one point skidding out of control and crashing into an electric pole on the wintry north St. Louis streets.

The officers continued their pursuit, as Stockley told his partner Bianchi that he intended to "kill this (expletive)." Less than a minute later, Smith lost control of his vehicle and Stockley ordered Bianchi, who

was driving, to ram into Smith. After the collision, Smith remained in the driver's seat while Stockley approached, shooting Smith five times, including a 'kill shot' that was fired within 6 inches of Smith's body.

In the minutes that followed, more police officers arrived to the scene. Stockley and other officers pulled Smith's slain body from his seat and let him lay in the street. One officer entered the now-vacant driver's seat and began to search for anything that would justify the actions they took, be it guns or drugs.

Officer Stockley told investigators that he saw a silver .38-caliber revolver pistol in Smith's car in the Church's parking lot, and believed he was in danger of his life. Police later recovered a small bag of heroin from Smith's car.

Later forensic analysis showed both the bag of heroin and the revolver instead contained Stockley's DNA, and not Smith's.

The more probable scenario is that Stockley kept heroin and weapons in his vehicle in order to implicate otherwise-innocent suspects. It is worth noting that Stockley did not find the bag of heroin in Smith's car, but rather other officers did. There is simply no logical explanation for why Stockley's DNA was found on the heroin unless it was handled by Stockley and planted there for other officers to discover. Stockley was a routine patrol officer, yet he knew to act in self-preservation after the incident by planting evidence when he found Smith to be in possession of nothing criminally actionable.

St. Louisans on all sides of this trial have been preparing for the worst, as demonstrators and clergy alike announce plans for marches,



Blockades have been put up around the St. Louis Courthouse ahead of the Stockley trial verdict.

vigils, and protests throughout the city if justice is not delivered in this case. Barricades have been erected by police outside of Carnahan Courthouse downtown, local stores have reportedly even stocked up on plywood to board up their windows, and Governor Eric Greitens has threatened activating the Missouri National Guard.

City and county officials have made it clear that they intend to do everything they can to prevent another Ferguson-esque uprising. Despite their efforts, if a not-guilty verdict is returned, St. Louis will un-

doubtedly see massive civil unrest. How can police expect to impose law and order when there is no order to the law?

If Stockley is exonerated, it will likely confirm many people's perceptions that police officers have the legal capacity to act extrajudicially and without accountability. When a community is subjected to this kind of repeated and systemic injustice, civil unrest is often the only form of effective resistance left at their disposal.

Currently, the verdict is being withheld from public knowledge

until further notice. The brazen nature of Stockley's alleged crimes raises serious questions about police ethics and accountability. Officer Stockley recklessly fired his weapon at a fleeing car multiple times, engaged in a high-speed pursuit, displayed premeditation before brutally killing Smith, and attempted to plant evidence to justify his crime. Stockley's actions certainly warrant a first degree murder charge, and any lesser sentence would be simply inadequate.

DeVos' Title IX Rollback Potentially Threatens Safety of Sexual Assault Victims

KYLE MANNISI
OPINIONS EDITOR

IN A speech last Thursday, Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announced that significant changes would be made to Title IX guidelines. DeVos has not been clear as to which specific changes she plans to make, although it will likely include reducing penalties for schools that violate Title IX.

Originally signed into law in 1972, Title IX ensured that women had equal access to on-campus sports and athletic scholarships. In the 1990s, Title IX was redefined by Supreme Court cases to include sexual assault and harassment, although these protections went largely unenforced. In 2011, the Department of Education's Civil Rights Division published a "Dear Colleague" letter to inform universities that noncompliance with Title IX would result in a withdrawal of federal funds from the school. This was a marked change, as there had historically never been a penalty for violating the rules of Title IX.



Betsy DeVos, United States Secretary of Education

DeVos wants to make changes because she feels that due process is being obstructed by the Obama-era statute. She believes that students who are accused of wrongdoing do not have an equal opportunity to defend themselves before decision-making bodies. It is disappointing to see this regressive attitude exhibited by an Education Secretary whose job responsibilities include combating the scourge of on-campus sexual misconduct.

Universities are money-making entities that have budgets and quotas to fill, meaning that administrators can benefit by taking highly unethical shortcuts to keep the name of their university untarnished. Often times, rape and sexual assault allegations have been swept under the rug in fear of bad publicity for the college. When as many as 65 percent of all sexual assaults go

unreported, any policy that makes it more difficult for victims to come forward should be firmly resisted.

DeVos also feels that "any perceived offense can become a full-blown Title IX investigation... if everything is harassment, then nothing is." This flippant attitude towards something as serious as sexual harassment is disturbing. We should be celebrating a system that is highly effective at identifying abusive behavior on our college campuses, not trying to dismantle it. DeVos' argument that "if everything is harassment, then nothing is," inherently sides with the abuser and grossly undermines the rights of the victim. Currently only two to eight percent of filed sexual assault reports are falsified, so it does not make sense to shift focus from victims to the falsely accused.

For decades, women who had been sexually assaulted on college campuses were intimidated by universities that had more interest in keeping victims quiet than seeking justice and punishing offending students. One popular contempo-

rary example that comes to mind is convicted rapist Brock Turner, who spent only three months in jail despite being found guilty of three counts of felony sexual assault in 2016.

The officials who work with Title IX currently have the power to investigate and suspend or expel students from universities, but not much else. In her speech, DeVos consistently misrepresents the power of Title IX professionals, who are bound by jurisdiction and do not have subpoena powers. They also cannot bring criminal charges against the accused.

DeVos' actions are backwards, with more focus on protecting people who have been potentially falsely accused rather than protecting victims of sexual assault and preserving their right to pursue an education in a safe environment. It will also reduce penalties for universities that do not meet Title IX standards, thus making it easier for sexual misconduct to go unreported or unresolved.



View from the UMSL section.

Annual UMSL Night at the Ballpark Great Success

KAT RIDDLER
MANAGING EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY of Missouri-St. Louis' annual UMSL Night at the Ballpark took place on September 8 at Busch Stadium. The Cardinals played the Pittsburgh Pirates starting at 7:15 p.m.

Before the first pitch, attendees were invited to the Cunningham Corner party room for photo opportunities and to receive a Car-

dinals baseball cap emblazoned with UMSL on the back. They also watched pre-game festivities on the field that featured Dean of the College of Business Administration Charles Hoffman, Student Government Association President Sean Burkett, senior, psychology, Louie the mascot, and others. From the reception area, everyone could enjoy the first pitch thrown by the UMSL Alumni Association President Stacy McMurray, BSBA 1990.

The event has become so popular that they moved to a food voucher system from the buffet style featured in years past. Nearly 750 UMSL alumni, students, staff, faculty, and friends filled the seats to see the Cardinals win 4-1.

Participants received a meal

voucher for a hotdog and soda, an UMSL baseball cap, and a Kelly Green Cardinals jersey with each purchased ticket for \$25. Students could purchase tickets for \$20. Attendees were also entered into raffles for a Fitbit Charge 2, Amazon Fire Tablet 8, gift card for the Car-

dinals Team Store, and an UMSL themed gift basket.

The event was a campus collaboration sponsored by the Office of Alumni Engagement, UMSL Alumni Association, and the UMSL Office of Student Involvement.



UMSL alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends at the UMSL Night at the Ballpark.



UMSL attendees were easy to see with their white and red Cardinals caps.

Lights! Camera! Action...Bronson!

MIKE A. BRYAN
STAFF WRITER

ACTION BRONSON is practically a living caricature - heavysset with XL clothing, big reddish beard, covered in tattoos, and perpetually stoned with a big New Yorker voice and even bigger personality. His love of food is no joke; actually, he was once a well-known chef in New York City. At the moment, you may have seen him on numerous shows on Viceland, heard his new album/mixtape, "Blue Chips 7000," or caught one of his many tours around the world. All of his projects have their merits, especially if you like his brashly funny and knowledgeable, thoughtful banter.

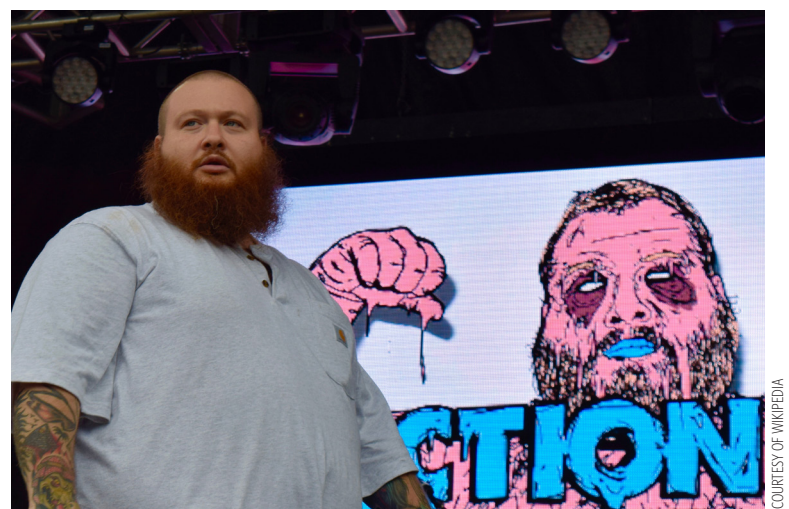
His main project on Viceland is called "F*ck That's Delicious!" and is a hilarious mix of Action and his pals, Big Body Bes and Meyhem Lauren, traveling, eating, drinking, and smoking tons of weed. They are all extremely likeable characters,

and the show allows them to express their personalities. At some point, Action met Mario Batali and became friends, so he has guested on Mario's cooking show (also on Viceland) and vice-versa. "F*ck That's Delicious!" is quirky, funny, unique, and definitely worth watching. The episode of Batali's show where Action guests is not to be missed, with humorous moments that both young and old will enjoy. His other popular show on Viceland is "Traveling the Stars: Action Bronson and Friends Watch Ancient Aliens," and consists of Action and some buddies getting high and talking about the History Channel show "Ancient Aliens." It is just as funny as you can imagine. His newest project is a Snapchat-only show called "Hungry Hearts," where Action appears to play the role of not only matchmaker, but also offers hilarious commentary on the dates. This Snapchat deal could propel him to the next level of stardom, so let's just hope he will con-

tinue making music.

His new album, "Blue Chips 7000," follows in its predecessors' footsteps in terms of lyrical and musical production and style. On the new LP, Action employs a host of producers, including The Alchemist, who is a regular guest on his Viceland food show. Each of the previous Blue Chips mixtapes stand on their own and this latest release is no different. His last full album, "Mr. Wonderful" is similar in lyrical style and musical production as well.

Action has a formula that he sticks to, and it works. That being said, he does sound like a white Ghostface Killah, and has been open in his admiration of the Wu-Tang rapper. Action claims his biggest influence is Kool G Rap, but many different East coast rappers can be heard in his flow, including Prodigy (RIP) of Mobb Deep. "Blue Chips 7000" is good, and worth checking out if you're down with



Action Bronson at the Governor's Ball Music Festival in 2016.

sample-heavy production and Action's random pop culture, food, and sports allusions.

Whether you like him or not, this character is here to stay. His cable TV show has become so popular that they are now showing old episodes on a different night from the regular show. His music has a

pretty large underground following, which will only grow with his exposure through Viceland, and now Snapchat. As a rapper, he may not be your style; however, his shows are certainly worth checking out. Do not sleep on this one.